

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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R 131330Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2538

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CU, GY

SUBJECT: GOODSSELL ARTICLE ON CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN GUYANA

1. GOODSSELL ARTICLE IN MARCH 11 CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR WHICH GOES BEYOND DISPELLING RUMORS ABOUT CUBAN TROOP PRESENCE IN GUYANA IS PROBABLY PRODUCT OF GOG PR REPRESENTATIVE IN U.S. (GELINAS). INACCURACIES IN REPORT HAVE A RING OF DELIBERATE MISREPRESENTATION. FOR EXAMPLE, STATEMENT QUOTE--- GUYANA ALSO REFUSED CUBAN PERMISSION TO REFUEL... UNQUOTE HAS NO RPT NO BASIS IN FACT. PM BURNHAM CATEGORICALLY AND PUBLICLY STATED THAT CUBANS HAD MADE NO OFFICIAL REQUEST TO USE TIMEHRI FOR REFUELING STOP. AT NO TIME HAS THE GOG INDICATED THAT IT WOULD RESPOND UNFAVORABLY SHOULD THE CUBANS REQUEST SUCH TRANSIT FACILITIES, AND THE GLARING FACT THAT THE CUBANS HAVE INSTALLED A STORAGE DEPOT WHICH IS AT LEAST THREE TIMES THE TOTAL TEXACO CAPACITY AT TIMEHRI SHOULD LEAVE LITTLE DOUBT WHAT THE GOG'S RESPONSE WOULD BE IF THE CUBANS QUOTE OFFICIALLY UNQUOTE REQUEST PERMISSION TO REFUEL CUBA/AFRICA FLIGHTS. GOODSSELL'S (READ GELINAS') REMARK THAT AIRLINES SOMETIMES INSTALL SUCH TANKS AT AIRPORTS WITH OTHERWISE SMALL CAPACITY TOTALLY AVOIDS

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THE LOGICAL QUESTION OF WHY CUBANA WOULD WANT A QUOTE RESERVE

SUPPLY OF FUEL UNQUOTE (WHICH ACCORDING TO OUR LOWEST ESTIMATE IS ENOUGH TO REFUEL TWENTY-FIVE CUBA/AFRICA FLIGHTS) FOR A ONCE-WEEKLY SCHEDULED HAVANA-GEORGETOWN FLIGHT THAT SINCE FEBRUARY REFUELS IN PORT OF SPAIN.

2. OTHER INACCURACIES OR OMISSIONS INCLUDE LACK OF MENTION OF THE ONE CUBA TO AFRICA AND ONE AFRICA TO CUBA FLIGHT WHICH REFUELED HERE IN DECEMBER, AND FACT THAT CUBAN TANKS WERE INSTALLED ON GUYANA DEFENSE FORCE BASE ADJACENT TO AIRPORT RATHER THAN ON AIRPORT ITSELF
KREBS

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